

Robert Dale Owen collection

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator - Compiler	Owen, Robert Dale, 1801-1877
Title	Robert Dale Owen collection
Date	1826-1904
Extent	1.0 Cubic feet 3 manuscript boxes
Language	English

Preferred Citation

Robert Dale Owen collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Robert Dale Owen was the son of reformer Robert Owen (1777-1858). The younger Owen accompanied his father to establish experimental community at New Harmony, Posey County, Indiana in 1825. In Indiana, Owen worked as an editor of several social reform journals, including the New Harmony Gazette, the New York Free Enquirer, and the Crisis (1820s-1830s). Owen was a member of the Democratic Party, and served in the Indiana House of Representatives twice (1836-1839 and 1851-1852). Owen also was a member of the United States House of Representatives (1843-1847). Additionally, Owen served as U.S. charge d'affaires and minister to Naples, Italy (1853-1858). Following his political career, Owen worked as a writer and speaker on social, political, and philosophical issues: emancipation, women's rights, and spiritualism. Robert Dale Owen married Lottie Walton Kellogg of New York in 1876. Robert Dale Owen died a year later in 1877.

Scope and Contents

The collection includes Owen's correspondence and writings (1826-1877), as well as correspondence of Lottie Kellogg Owen and the Kellogg family of New and Philadelphia (1827-1904). The Owen papers include his family correspondence with father Robert Owen (1852-1854), daughter Rosamond (1872-1877), and a letter regarding New Harmony from his brother William Owen (1827). Additional writings and papers relate to spiritualism, politics, social issues, condolences following the death of his father, correspondence with publishers regarding his autobiography and other published works. The collection also includes a Chickasaw dictionary and phrase book (1828).

The Kellogg family papers include Lottie Kellogg Owen's correspondence and papers regarding the settlement of Robert Dale Owen's estate (1877-1880s), correspondence of the Kellogg daughters and family members (1839-1900), and correspondence of Alexander Osbourn of Philadelphia to his wife Jennie Kellogg Osbourn (1835-1853). Also included is a letter from Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley to Frances Wright (1830).

Correspondents include Henry Ward Beecher, Augustus C. Dodge, William Dean Howells, Anne Henrietta Leonowens, Robert Owen, William Owen, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Nicholas P. Trist.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a purchase from Anthony T. Russo 1934/03/26.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed in 1999. Finding aid created in 1999. EAD finding aid revised 2015/06/01 by Brent Abercrombie.

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- New Harmony (Ind.)

Subject(s)

- Chickasaw language--Dictionaries--English.
- Dramatists
- Owen, Robert, 1771-1858--Correspondence.
- Spiritualism.
- Spiritualists--United States.
- Women's rights.

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Correspondence, 1826-1831	1	1
Correspondence, 1832-1843	1	2
Correspondence, 1844-1849	1	3
Correspondence, 1850-1851	1	4
Correspondence, 1852-1853	1	5
Correspondence, 1854-1856	1	6
Correspondence, 1857	1	7
Correspondence, 1858	1	8
Correspondence, 1859	1	9
Correspondence, 1860-1861	1	10
Correspondence, 1862	1	11
Correspondence, 1863-1865	1	12

Correspondence, January-June, 1876

Correspondence, 1866-1867	1	13
Correspondence, 1868-1869	1	14
Correspondence, 1870	1	15
Correspondence, 1871	1	16
Correspondence, January-June, 1872	2	1
Correspondence, July-December, 1872	2	2
Correspondence, 1873	2	3
Correspondence, 1874	2	4
Correspondence, January-June, 1875	2	5
Correspondence, July-December, 1875	2	6
Notebook, 1875	2	7
Correspondence, January-June, 1876	Box 2	Folder 8
Correspondence, July-December, 1876	2	9
Draft "1607 or The Jamestown Blockhouse," 1876	2	10

Correspondence, January-June, 1876

Correspondence, January-June, 1877	3	1
Correspondence, July-December, 1877	3	2
Correspondence, 1878-1879	3	3
Correspondence, 1880-1884	3	4
Correspondence, 1885-1904	3	5
Correspondence, undated (folder 1 of 2)	3	6
Correspondence, undated (folder 2 of 2)	3	7
Envelops, undated	3	8